

PROCEEDINGS OF THE
ROYAL ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY
OF LONDON

SERIES C. JOURNAL OF MEETINGS

VOLUME 10.

No. 10, 1946.

ANNUAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY, 16TH JANUARY, 1946, at 8.0 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Confirmation of the Proceedings of the General Meeting held on 5th December, 1945.
2. Recommendations of candidates for Fellowship.
3. Announcement of election of new Fellows.
4. Announcement of election of Officers and Council for 1946.
5. Additions to the Library since the meeting on 5th December, 1945.

Presented.

- Merian, M. S.: *De europische Insecten, Naauwkeurig onderzocht, na't leven geschildert, en in print gebragt, &c.* fol. Amsterdam, 1730. [Mr. A. E. Wright.]
- Carpenter, M. M.: Bibliography of Biographies of Entomologists. [1945, *Amer. Midl. Nat.* **33**: -116.] [The author.]
- Gough, H. C.: *A review of the literature on soil insecticides.* London, 1945. [Imperial Institute of Entomology.]
- Lima, A. da Costa: *Insetos do Brasil. Tomo 5. Lepidópteros. la. Parte.* Rio de Janeiro, 1945. [The author.]
- Metcalf, Z. P.: *A bibliography of the Homoptera (Auchenorrhyncha).* 2 vols. [c. 1944.]
- Pearson, E. O., and Mitchell, B. L.: *A report on the status and control of insect pests of cotton in the Lower River Districts of Nyasaland.* Zomba, 1945. [The authors.]
- Silvestri, F.: *Compendio di Entomologia applicata (Agraria-Forestale-Medica-Veterinaria) Parte Speciale.* Vol. 2. Portici, 1943. [The author.]
- Matheson, R.: *The mosquitoes of North America.* 2nd edition. Ithaca, N.Y., 1944.
- Hartnack, H.: *Unbidden house guests.* Tacoma, Wash., 1943.
- Williams, C. B.: *Album of photographs of South American Entomologists.* [The British Council & Dr. C. B. Williams.]

In addition, separates have been presented by Mr. H. K. Airy Shaw, Prof. P. A. Buxton, F.R.S., the American Entomological Society, Dr. J. R. Busvine, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Cawthron Institute, New Zealand, Dr. E. B. Ford, Dr. E. Handschin, Dr. A. D. Imms, F.R.S., and Prof. H. Weber.

6. Admission of Fellows.
7. Papers accepted for publication in the *Transactions*.
8. Council's Report.
9. Treasurer's Report and Balance Sheet.
10. The President's Remarks.
11. Vote of thanks to the Officers.

Refreshments will be served in the Library after the meeting.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 5TH DECEMBER, 1945.

Professor G. D. Hale CARPENTER, M.B.E., D.M., President, in the Chair.

Present, 68 Fellows and 10 Visitors.

The minutes of the Special General Meeting held on 7th November, 1945, which had been circulated, were confirmed and signed by the President.

The names of the following candidates for election were read :—

For the first time : D. G. Ashby, J. P. Bernacca, W. R. Bett, Major N. Brangham, Mrs. G. B. Hudson, M.Sc., Miss V. K. C. Lieu, Flying-Officer T. A. Lloyd, J. A. F. Lodezew.

For the second time : Francis Bickerstaff, H. Brédo, B. A. Cooper, E. F. Gilmour, E. J. Hudson, Mrs. M. J. Richards, G. Roberts, Prof. W. Roepke, J. W. Siddorn, W. O. Steel, G. B. Thompson, G. F. Woods.

The Secretary read the names of the following newly elected Fellows of the Society :—Richard F. Avery, M.A., Imperial Institute of Entomology, 41 Queen's Gate, S.W.7; Richard Gaston Chatelain, 15 Alleyn Park, West Dulwich, S.E.21; Rev. John Murray Dunning, O.C.F., 88 Grove Park Road, Mottingham, S.E.9; Ralph Stanton Ferry, Fulling Mill, Welwyn, Herts; Albro Tilton Gaul, B.S., 401 Washington Avenue, Brooklyn 5, New York, U.S.A.; H. E. Hammond, 16 Elton Grove, Birmingham 27; Frank Hewson, 23 Thornhill Drive, Gaisby Lane, Shipley, Yorks; Agnes Adam Meikle, B.Sc., West of Scotland Agricultural College, 6 Blythswood Square, Glasgow, C.2; L. W. Miller, M. Agr. Sc., Department of Agriculture, Hobart, Tasmania; James Leonard Palmer, O.B.E., F.R.G.S., Chetwode, Mannamhead, Plymouth; John T. Salmon, M.Sc., Dominion Museum, Wellington C.3, New Zealand; John Dee Shapland, Chislehurst, Sydenham Villas Road, Cheltenham; Geoffrey Stoughton-Harris, 2 Cornwall Road, Sutton, Surrey; Olwen George Watkins, 20 Tow View Avenue, Peverell, Plymouth; Leonard Williams, Frelan, Station Road, Digswell, Welwyn, Herts.

Thanks were voted to donors of gifts to the Library since the last Meeting.

Mr. R. F. Avery, Mr. S. Callaway, Mr. W. E. China, Mr. D. Goddard, Mr. J. W. Hancock, M. J. Leclercq, Mr. A. P. Kapur, Mr. B. B. Snell, Major J. A. Reid, and Mr. P. W. Stanley signed the Obligation Book and were admitted Fellows of the Society.

The Secretary read for the second time the nominations for Officers and Council for 1946.

Communications were made by Mr. H. St. J. K. Donisthorpe, Dr. L. G. Higgins and Dr. B. M. Hobby, abstracts of which appeared on p. 34.

In addition, Mr. Donisthorpe communicated the following supplementary information concerning the 50 gynandromorphous ants which he exhibited from the island of Ireland's Eye, in Dublin Bay:—

All the specimens are mixed gynandromorphs or female-male mosaics. They are all more or less winged, mostly with 12-jointed antennae, the legs being chiefly male. All of them, even the most female-like specimens, possess a more or less complete male genital armature, and a certain number have stings as well. No two specimens are alike. Some 67 gynandromorphous ants have been described to date, and the present individuals bring the total up to 117. On all the previous occasions not more than 2, or 3 at the most, have been found in a single colony. The present case, however, is entirely overshadowed by the 4000 and more gynandromorphs taken by Dr. Neal Weber in a large colony of *Cephalotes quadridens* De Geer. These unfortunately have not yet been described. Various theories advanced to account for the occurrences of these abnormal forms were discussed by Dr. Cockayne in a paper on gynandromorphism published in 1916. In 1903 the late Professor W. M. Wheeler pointed out that there can be no real understanding of gynandromorphism until it can be produced experimentally. This Dr. van Someren claimed in 1926 to have done in Lepidoptera, by a sudden vibration caused by knocking several times with the knuckles, or a mallet of medium weight, on the side of the box containing larvae which had just cast the larval skin, so that the pupae were still soft and unset. Mr. Walls, who collected the ants exhibited, states that there is a powerful oscillator at the Baily Lighthouse. In bad weather, when this signal is sent out, the ground across the Bay has been felt to vibrate. He also tells me that he has taken three or four other gynandromorphs, belonging to other species of ants, besides the present 50, and all within two miles of this lighthouse.

Mr. B. D. Wragge Morley also commented on Mr. Donisthorpe's exhibit, and gave a brief summary of recent literature bearing on the subject of gynandromorphism in ants.

The Rev. C. E. Tottenham exhibited (1) examples of a colony of *Carpelimus croceipes* (Fauvel) taken by Mr. R. G. Donald at Maracas Bay, Trinidad, on 5 Aug., 1945. The beetles were congregated upon a rock surface measuring 2 ft. \times 2 ft. 8 in.; the rock was in mid-stream and bare, kept free from moss and algae by heavy floods. The specimens tubed numbered over 8000, and Mr. Donald estimated that these represented from one-thirtieth to one-twentieth of the colony; therefore the colony must have been about 200,000 strong. Similar phenomena have been observed in the locality, but no satisfactory explanation has been put forward to account for the gregarious habit. The species is recorded from Cuba, Jamaica, etc., but in Blackwelder's *Monograph of the West Indian Staphylinidae* (with the aid of which the species has been identified) it is not recorded from Trinidad.

(2) An example of aberrant cocoon-formation in *Eriogaster lanestris*. A web of larvae from near Cambridge was kept in captivity in rather confined quarters. In more than one case several larvae formed a common cocoon. Shortly after the exhibited cocoon was formed a larva bit a hole at the end and emerged, followed immediately by a second and third larva, which wandered about aimlessly until they died.

Captain R. A. Jackson showed a series of the Geometrid moth, *Cleora cinctaria*, taken at Struan last April, together with specimens from the New Forest for comparison. The Scotch insects were generally considerably brighter in tone than the English and a white-banded form frequently occurred, two specimens of which were exhibited. In 1945, what is believed to be a new albino variety was discovered by Mr. Austin Richardson of Minchinhampton, who stated that it represented two to three per cent. of the insects examined. In this variety the ground colour was very pale and the cross lines a sandy-fawn. A female of this variety was shown, which had laid fifteen ova, but the resultant larvae appeared to be far less robust than larvae of the normal type, and only five or six pupae had resulted.

The Registrar gave an account of his experiences in Germany on a recent, and very successful, tour in search of war-time German publications on the biological sciences.

N. D. RILEY,
Hon. Secretary.

The next Meeting will be held on Wednesday, 6th February, 1946, at 5.30 p.m.

ADMISSION OF FELLOWS

Any Fellow who has not been formally admitted to the Society under Chapter XIV, Section 4 of the Bye-Laws and attends the meeting on 16th January, 1946, is requested to inform the Registrar before 7.45 p.m. on that date.